

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

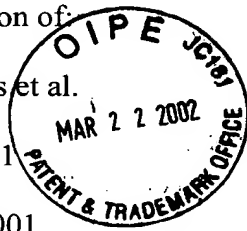
In re patent application of:

Patrick W. McManus et al.

Serial No: 09/977,721

Filed: October 15, 2001

MECHANISM FOR IMPROVING THE
SEALING FUNCTION FOR A SLIDE
OUT ROOM OF A RECREATIONAL
VEHICLE



Before the Examiner

Group Art Unit: 3635

3635
4/18/02
P#
#5

RECEIVED
MAR 26 2002
GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants hereby submit the attached documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), as these documents are being submitted before the first Office Action. Copies of the cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b), or that these documents are prior art.

French patent 2360444 shows a recreational vehicle having slide-out rooms 5 and 6 movable between fully retracted positions and fully extended positions as shown in Figure 1. As shown in Figures 3 and 4, the slide-out room is movable by way of slides, comprised of C-shaped cross sectional channels (Figure 4) with a plurality of rollers 16 (Figure 3) movable within the channels. The slide member 25 (Figure 6) includes a rotatable latch mechanism 23 which latches to a pin 24 to lock the slide-out room in the fully retracted position, and latches to a pin 25 to lock the slide-out room in the fully extended position. It appears that cable 26 is connected to the latch 23 to disengage the latch 23 from the pins 24, 25.

It is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0387, but not to include any payment of issue fees.



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: March 18, 2002

Michelle L. Watson

Michelle L. Watson

Dated: March 18, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Eric J. Groen

Eric J. Groen, Reg. No. 32,230
BAKER & DANIELS
205 West Jefferson Blvd., Suite 250
South Bend, IN 46601
(219) 234-4149

RECEIVED
MAR 26 2002
GROUP 3600